

CONDENSATION OF FRESH NEWS

THE LATEST IMPORTANT DISPATCHES PUT INTO SHORT, CRISP PARAGRAPHS.

STORY OF THE WEEK

SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF EVENTS IN OUR OWN AND FOREIGN LANDS.

WESTERN NEWS.

Work has been commenced on the first eight miles of the Union Pacific out of Seattle, Wash.

It is estimated that losses by the Rawhide, Tex., fire will aggregate \$800,000. The town is "Phoenixing" with remarkable rapidity.

Official returns compiled by Secretary of Agriculture Coburn show the population of Kansas to be 1,656,799, an increase over last year of 6,639.

According to the petition to probate the will of the late Col. William F. Vt. has filed in the County Court at Madison, Wis., his estate is valued at \$342,000.

Rear Admiral Henry Glass, U. S. N., retired, died on the 1st inst. at Pas Robles, California, of heart failure, following an operation performed several days before at his home in Berkeley.

A large Japanese insurance company has practically determined to enter the United States and a prominent San Francisco underwriter has already been decided upon for the United States manager.

At the Minnesota state fair at St. Paul Saturday De Palma, in a ninety-horsepower machine broke the world's automobile record for a mile on a circular track by covering the distance in fifty-one seconds flat.

E. H. Harriman, while passing through Oregon, told a delegation of Vooa Bay citizens that if he could be insured interest of four per cent. on an investment of \$5,000,000 for ten years he would build a road into the Coos Bay country.

A Carnegie medal has been received by Marjorie Const, the eleven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Const of Iowa City, Iowa, who leaped into the Iowa river and saved the life of Margaret Hayes, daughter of Prof. and Mrs. Samuel Hayes, last summer.

A device for the purpose of making women get off a street car without facing backward is being tried by the Chicago City Railway Company. The passenger has nothing to grasp except a handle at the forward end of the step and seemingly cannot help facing forward when leaving the car.

An increase of \$50,000 over July, 1907, is shown in the gross earnings of the Colorado & Southern railroad for the corresponding month this year. The total gross earnings for July, 1908, are \$1,240,368, being the largest of any month since last January. The operating expenses of the road were reduced \$39,000 for the same month.

Contending that the United States district attorney was not warranted by law in attempting to collect the \$1,000 fine imposed upon the late United States Senator Mitchell in connection with the land fraud cases, from his estate, United States Judge Wolverton at Portland, Ore., has handed down a decision vacating the fine imposed on the Senator July 25, 1905.

Four heirs of the late Hugh McCurdy of Corunna, Mich., who left his \$119,000 estate to the Masonic Orphans' Home at Grand Rapids, Mich., have filed notice of a suit to break the will. Mr. McCurdy, who was one of the wealthiest known Masons in the United States, left his widow only an annuity of \$300 and his son, Spencer, a life interest in the farm upon which he lived.

The American Smelting & Refining Company has issued its annual report for the year ending April 30th last, which shows a decrease in earnings compared with the previous year of \$344,778. President Daniel Guggenheim in his report to the stockholders said that the decline in business had not impaired the company's surplus, which now amounts to \$13,408,219. He also stated that there is a marked improvement at the present time in the market value of copper and lead.

GENERAL NEWS.

It is stated that Senator Foraker of Ohio has announced his intention to take a stump for Taft.

Hundreds of thousands of people turned out to welcome the visiting Americans of the Atlantic fleet on its arrival at Melbourne.

Mrs. W. L. Gilman of Roxbury, Mass., was elected national president of the Woman's Relief Corps at the convention in Toledo.

At the Toledo meeting Mrs. Genevieve Longfield of Chicago was elected national president of the Ladies of the A. R. after a spirited contest. Mrs. Catherine Ross of Denver was elected treasurer.

The so-called anti-bucket shop law which was enacted by the last legislature and approved by Governor Hughes, went into operation September 1st in New York city. Charles H. Bauman, president of the Consolidated Stock exchange, said that as a result of the new law the exchange expects a considerable increase in business.

Lionel Sackville West, second baron of sackville, died on the 3rd inst. He was British minister to the United States, 1881 to 1888. At the request of President Cleveland he was recalled in October, 1888.

At Dorpat, Russia, a sergeant of police and six wardens of the prison have been convicted of torturing prisoners with the idea of extorting confessions and each sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

The number marching in the Grand Army parade at Toledo Wednesday is estimated at from 8,000 to 12,000. They marched slowly and the ranks were not close, so that it took four hours to pass the reviewing stand.

Heffron, the South African distance runner, who finished second in the Marathon race in London last July, was given a banquet at Cape Town on his return to Africa. Members of the cabinet and legislature and other prominent persons participated.

A case of lockjaw in advanced stage has just been cured at St. John's hospital, Brooklyn. It is believed that the cure was effected through the use of sodium chloride (common salt), as advised by the specialists of the Rockefeller institute. A twenty-five per cent. solution was injected directly into the spinal cord.

Frederick C. Hewitt, a retired banker and a Yale graduate of the class of 1858, died of apoplexy at Oswego, New York Sunday, aged sixty-nine years. Mr. Hewitt, a bachelor, leaves an estate valued at \$30,000,000. He was related to the Frelinghuysen family and was a cousin of Senator Thomas C. Platt.

It is stated in Pittsburgh that at a recent conference held in Skibo castle, Scotland, Mr. Andrew Carnegie made arrangements for the Carnegie School of Technology of Pittsburgh on a scale which will make that institution in every way worthy of his name, having authorized an expenditure of \$10,000,000.

Director Edwin B. Frost of Yerkes observatory on the 2nd inst. announced the discovery of a new comet through photographic observations made by Prof. D. W. Morehouse of Drake university of Des Moines. It is clearly defined and has a tail several degrees long, and was found in the constellation Camelopardus.

Counsel for Peter C. Hains, Jr., and his brother, T. Jenkins Hains, charged with the slaying of William E. Annis, have been notified by the district attorney in New York City that he will be ready to try the case on the opening day of the October term of court, which, it is expected, will be the 1st of the month.

Governor Fort of New Jersey succeeded in having the saloons of Atlantic City tightly closed Sunday. Even the best known and most favored patrons of hostilities and cafes noted for their wide open methods could not secure their coveted liquor. Governor Fort had threatened to send troops in case of a further violation of the Sunday closing law.

Denying the truth of report that Dr. W. S. Rainsford, formerly rector of the St. George's Episcopal church in New York city, who is now in Africa, will join President Roosevelt there when he goes on his hunt, the president's secretary said that the President had arranged to take no one along with him on his hunting expedition except his son, Kermit, and two naturalists.

A shortage of more than \$400,000 has been disclosed in the Havana post-office by an inventory of stamps, envelopes and other material, and Ricardo Rodriguez, chief of the supply bureau, has disappeared. Other high officials are believed to be implicated. A Cuban, Col. Charles Hernandez, is postmaster general, acting under Lieutenant Colonel Greble.

In restraining the Birmingham city authorities from interfering with shipments of beer into that city, Judge Thomas G. Jones of the United States Court at Montgomery, Ala., held that the shipment was an interstate shipment until it reached the purchaser. The trial judge held that the interstate haul ended at the depot and under the state statutes it was unlawful for a transfer company to deliver it at the place of consignment.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

The crop reporting board of the bureau of statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture September 1st announced that the average condition of the cotton crop August 25th was 76.1 per cent. of a normal.

The recent agitation in Washington over the Early leprosy case and in Arizona over the case of Mrs. General Wardwell, who was similarly afflicted, will, it is believed by officials of the public health and marine hospital service, lead to a renewed effort to obtain the establishment at some place in the United States of a national leprosy hospital for the isolation and treatment of leprosy.

President Roosevelt has approved the plans of the proposed new battleships Florida and Utah, which were authorized at the last session of Congress. It is expected that advertisements for bids for the construction of the Utah will be published in a few days. That vessel is to be constructed at private ship yards while the Florida is to be built at the Brooklyn navy yard.

Herbert A. Stevens, formerly of Cambridge, Massachusetts, has been appointed private secretary to Secretary of Commerce and Labor Strauss. Mr. Stevens has been confidential clerk to the secretary and succeeds Theodore L. Weed, who resigned as private secretary to become secretary to Chairman Hitchcock of the Republican national committee.

CAPT. T. S. BALDWIN

HAS MADE PROBLEM OF AERIAL NAVIGATION LIFE STUDY.

Dirigible Balloon Recently Completed for Government Signal Corps Product of 30 Years' Labor—Begins Experiments Early.

Washington.—Capt. Thomas Scott Baldwin, dean of aeronautics in this country, has devoted his life to the problem of aerial navigation. Capt. Baldwin's name is inseparably linked with aeronautic activities the world over. In nearly every civilized country of the world Capt. Baldwin has given exhibitions with his parachutes, balloons and airships. With constantly applied persistency to make a success of ballooning, Capt. Baldwin has not relinquished his interest for a single day for 30 years. During this long experience, he has made and given more than 3,000 exhibitions and flights in the air. Unlike those who have made failures of their airship experiences, Capt. Baldwin is essentially a student. His workshop does not present the appearance of a collection of ideas, plainly marked theories. He has always worked along the practical and scientific lines. To these he owes his success, although kind fate appears always to have smiled upon him. He has taken chances in making his experiments in the air that would still with fear the heart of a man of less courage than himself.

"Apprehension of trouble is far worse than the trouble itself when it arrives," said Capt. Baldwin. "I learned this early, and I never borrow trouble. I never feel the least bit of fear. I always have figured out the thing I



Capt. T. S. Baldwin.

meant to do before doing it, and felt reasonably sure that I could accomplish it before making the attempt."

Interest in aeronautics has been intensified since the government began to take an interest. The recent tests of Capt. Baldwin's big dirigible balloon, which he built for the signal corps of the United States army, were followed with a keen interest all over the ballooning world. In addition to this he has built for the government two spherical balloons.

Following the old adage that a shoemaker should stick to his last, Capt. Baldwin never wavered for a moment in his intention to master the air for transportation facilities.

When still a mere youngster he began his experiments at San Francisco. Up to this time there had never been a successful parachute jump. It had been nearly 50 years previous to Baldwin's attempt that the last man to try the experiment had met his death. But after considerable experimenting and thought given to the idea, Baldwin was determined to make a jump of 1,000 feet from the balloon. That was 21 years ago. Baldwin announced his intention and thousands of people gathered at Golden Gate park and cheered as the plucky young man made the first successful parachute jump on record. This was the beginning of his long record of successes twice around the world. And in all these daring chances he took Capt. Baldwin has never suffered the slightest injury.

This dean of American aeronautics has given exhibitions before the nobility and many of the crowned heads of Europe. Also in Australia, China, Japan and Egypt. Everywhere he went, with his series of successes following him, he gave encouragement to those who were working along the same lines that he had spent so many years on.

The one sad event in Capt. Baldwin's experience was the loss of his perfectly equipped workshop during the San Francisco disaster. Thousands of dollars had been spent on the best tools, the finest materials and half-finished airships, which represented years of experiments and also the best of his knowledge gleaned from his work in his all-around the world trips.

WHEN the FLEET GETS to MALTA

ODD SIGHTS WHICH WILL GREET THE AMERICAN SAILORS THERE



MALTESE LADY

Not the least interesting of all the places at which the American fleet will touch in its sail 'round the earth will be the little island of Malta, in the Mediterranean sea, south of Sicily. There the great fleet of battle-ships will stop on its way home from the Pacific to the Atlantic, via the Suez canal. Outside of diplomatic, naval and military circles, little is known of this mere speck upon the map of Europe.

Students of history will perhaps recall the presence there of Napoleon I., who pillaged the churches, stripping them of their gold and silver, and shipping the booty away, only to have his vessel founder in a gale and losing all. To-day, in the churches are solid silver gates and vessels that were overlooked by Napoleon's men for the reason that they were painted black to deceive the eye of the vandals.

On the northwestern shore of this island is St. Paul's bay, clearly identified with the apostle's shipwreck and made the subject of many famous paintings, adorning the walls of the churches in Valletta, the principal city of the island.

The stirring history of the Knights of Malta is forcefully present in all its romance, and the island is rich in relics of these valiant men. To the feminine mind, Maltese lace, that ever popular fabric, is suggested, although this material is not directly connected with the island of Malta, the lacemakers living upon the adjoining island of Gozo.

Most important of all—England has these islands, making Malta the base of supplies, coaling station, garrison and rendezvous of the Mediterranean squadron. From the British, the American admiral and his officers will receive attention. The sailors will view the island in its simple life, explore catacombs and visit the ancient Citta Vecchia. At San Antonio the officers will be entertained by the duke of Connaught, who is at present commander-in-chief of the military forces of the Mediterranean.

On the fourth day after leaving Gibraltar, the traveler to the east finds himself in the Malta channel, a strip between Sicily and Malta. Upon bright days the snow-clad peak of Etna makes itself visible. At the south the rocky shore of Gozo is outlined. Eastward, bright in its orange color, lies Malta.

One is first impressed with its snow-white buildings, low and solid, and with the spires of the churches. In the distance the huge dome of Mustafa church, the third largest in the world, stands like a sentinel, guarding the people of the old city in the center of the island. This church, with its huge dome, was built by natives who worked only upon Sundays and holidays and without wages, the labor covering a period of 27 years. No scaffolding was used in its construction.

The two great harbors spread their arms invitingly and within there is ample anchorage for the "big 16" fleet of Uncle Sam. The huge breakwater, poking its nose into the channel, speaks of the enterprise of the English in protecting this wee spot from tempests.

The buildings skirt the shore of the harbor, rising abruptly to the emina-

once that forms the principal thoroughfare of the city of Valletta.

Up through the narrow stone streets you are driven to the hotel, passing upon every hand men who wear the uniform of King Edward. The bare footed, or sandaled, native tridgers loiter along. Here and there one sees a group of Maltese women, their faces half-hidden beneath the faldette.

This primitive race is deeply attached to their national usages for which other nationalities sometimes show lack of consideration. The faldette is a peculiar mantilla of black silk worn by the women. It is sometimes called onega. In shape it resembles a huge poke bonnet or skirt turned over the head. It is gathered in on one side and kept in place by an arched whalebone. This is operated very skillfully by the women, and gives them the nunlike effect remarked by the visitor.

The ovens of the knights still supply the garrison. The present postoffice on Strada Mercanti, formerly the Palazzo Parisio, was occupied by Napoleon I. as his headquarters when he was at Valletta. A tablet marks the spot for the tourist.

Strada Santa Lucia, or, as it is known by the tourists, the "street of steps," is a decided novelty. It leads from the lower town along the bay to the main street of Valletta, Strada Reale. This climb is lined with shops, and here also are found at the corners the quaint shrines, before which burn the candles placed there by the devout people.

The governor's palace is all that one could picture as typical. Here is the room hung in rich tapestry in which the house of assembly for the local parliament meets. Here Italian is spoken, this language also being used in the courts of justice on the island. It is declared by the commercial classes that the use of English as a supplement to Maltese and Italian would be desirable.

St. John's Conventual church is next in importance to the palace. Within, from floor to ceiling, it is one blaze of memorial antiquity. The floor is paved with tombstones of more than 400 chevaliers. With the heraldic emblems in marble mosaic, and the sculpture, bronze and paintings, a wealth of history is unfolded. This wonderful church has its chapel, each devoted to the nationality of men who have figured in the stirring history of the island, each chapel having art in oil and marble.

No visitor to Malta ever leaves without first visiting the Chapel of Bones, beneath the Hospital of Incurables, which adjoins the burial place of the knights who died in hospital and who were buried in mantels a bed with their white cross. This chapel's architecture is rendered in every detail by the bleached bones of humanity. At the base of the altar is a tablet bearing an inscription. The following is a translation:

D O M
THE WORLD IS A STAGE.
OUR LIFE A TRAGEDY.
ALL IS ILLUSION; ALL A FIC-
TION.
DEATH THE CLOSE OF ALL
THINGS.
IT UNMASKS AND SOLVES
ALL.
THOU WHO LIVEST, PONDER
ON THIS.
PRAY THAT PERPETUAL
LIGHT MAY SHINE ON
THOSE WHO REST HEREIN.
GO IN PEACE. REMEMBER
THAT THOU SHALT DIE.

The mortuary connected with the hospital has a singular relic. It is a place where the body is left 24 hours after death, with straps fastened to the hands and feet. The slightest motion would set a bell ringing and thus prevent any likelihood of being buried alive.

Both the islands of Gozo and Malta are honeycombed with caves which date from the period of Phoenician occupation. These catacombs are attractive in their gruesome. One enters them at Citta Vecchia, where native guides are always waiting to earn a few pennies for the privilege of escorting you through the maze-like corridors extending in all directions.